

March 23, 2012

This Week:

- Construction begins on next-generation ferry
- Spring schedule begins Sunday
- Colman dock customers: construction advisory
- Fuel hedging update

Construction begins on next-generation ferry

The first arc welds on the keel of Washington's new 144-car ferry will be made next Thursday by the leaders of the state Legislature transportation committees, Sen. Mary Margaret Haugen of Camano Island and Rep. Judy Clibborn of Mercer Island. This construction is critical to replacing our aging fleet. The new ferry will allow us to retire one of the 1950s-era Evergreen State Class vessels. We have a solid partnership with Vigor after successful completion of the Kwa-di Tabil Class ferries, and I look forward to the first 144-car ferry joining the state's fleet and serving our customers. Visit the project Web page to learn more about the 144-car new vessel program.

Spring schedule begins Sunday

WSF begins operating its spring 2012 schedule on Sunday, March 25. The schedule is green and can be found at terminals, on vessels, and on our <u>website</u>. WSF will provide international service to Sidney, British Columbia during the spring schedule.

Colman dock customers: construction advisory

Marion Street will be closed from Alaskan Way South (under the viaduct) to Western Avenue during the following times this weekend:

- 11: 30 p.m. Friday, March 23 to 5 a.m. Saturday, March 24
- 8 p.m. Sunday, March 25 to 5 a.m. Monday, March 26

Vehicles utilizing the north exit at Pier 52 will be required to proceed north or south on Alaskan Way South as they will be unable to proceed eastbound on Marion Street. To follow construction progress, visit the Alaskan Way Viaduct replacement program website.

Fuel hedging update

On Monday we met at WSDOT headquarters to discuss fuel hedging. With the recent increase in fuel prices, WSF's hedging program will reduce the impact of fuel on the budget. We have hedged about 60 percent of our expected fuel consumption in March through June 30, the end of the fiscal year. If prices stay at current levels, we will save more than \$1 million by hedging during those months.

Next Week:

- Opening of Anacortes-Sidney B.C. route
- AWV agency coordination meeting
- FAC executive council meeting

David Moseley's weekly updates are available on the WSDOT Ferries Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/weekly.

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